

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180329

62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: SENATOR GOLDWATER'S REMARKS

REF: BANGKOK 14195

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT INSERTED IN SEPTEMBER 10
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD BY SENATOR GOLDWATER:

QUOTE: MR. GOLDWATER. MR. PRESIDENT, HAVING ONCE BEEN A
CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES, HAVING
BEEN THROUGH NUMEROUS HOTLY CONTESTED POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS
AND HAVING BEEN ACTIVE IN PUBLIC LIFE FOR MORE THAN TWO
DECades, THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF BEING QUOTED OUT OF CONTEXT
IS NOTHING NEW TO ME.

EVEN SO, I MUST SAY THAT THE CONNOTATIONS PLACED
UPON MY REMARKS DURING A SPEECH IN DES MOINES, IOWA, ON
AUGUST 31 ON THE SUBJECT OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH THAILAND
CAME AS SOMETHING OF A SURPRISE.

I WAS SPEAKING, MR. PRESIDENT, ABOUT THE GREAT

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PAGE 02 STATE 180329

IMPORTANCE, NOT ONLY OF THAILAND BUT OF THE ENTIRE PACIFIC

PERIMETER TO THE FUTURE OF THE UNITED STATES. I WAS POINTING OUT THAT THE BLOCKAGE OF THE SUEZ CANAL HAD GREATLY INCREASED THE IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF THE STRAITS OF MALACCA, EXPLAINING THAT OIL FROM THE MIDDLE

EAST CURRENTLY HAD TO BE ROUTED TO THIS COUNTRY THROUGH THE STRAITS OF MALACCA. I WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT THE GOODWILL OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THOSE STRAITS ARE VASTLY IMPORTANT TO THIS COUNTRY.

I HAVE NOTICED THAT THE NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER OF THAILAND IN BANGKOK HAS PROTESTED TO U.S. AMBASSADOR LEONARD UNGER ABOUT A QUOTE OF MINE WHICH SAID: IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE OIL AND FUEL, WE HAVE TO KEEP THAILAND. IT IS TO OUR VITAL NATIONAL INTEREST TO PROTECT THAILAND.

NATURALLY, MR. PRESIDENT, I WAS REFERRING TO THE GOODWILL OF THAT FINE COUNTRY. SINCE WE DO NOT POSSESS THAILAND, HOW COULD WE POSSIBLY KEEP HER? MY CONCERN HAS BEEN AND STILL IS, FOR THE GOODWILL AND CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THIS COUNTRY OF THAI INTERESTS. THE IDEA OF THAILAND AS A "COLONY OF THE UNITED STATES" AS MENTIONED IN THE PROTEST OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER CERTAINLY NEVER OCCURRED TO ME, NOR IN LIGHT OF MY LONG AND UNRELENTING OPPOSITION TO SUPERPOWER OF ANY KIND COULD IT EVER OCCUR TO ME.

I AM INSERTING THIS STATEMENT INTO THE RECORD, MR. PRESIDENT, IN THE HOPE AND CONFIDENT BELIEF THAT RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS OF THAILAND WILL KNOW THAT MY SPEECH HAD THAT COUNTRY'S BEST INTEREST AT HEART AND NOTHING ELSE. UNQUOTE. RUSH

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